

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

[0004] Shoot houses were originally constructed out of a concrete, gravel filled walls, or tire walls. While these shoot houses provided a marked improvement over traditional training, they still do not feel as realistic as conventional looking walls.

[0004] A significant improvement in shoot houses was achieved with the invention of modular shoot house walls in which plates of steel were attached together in a ballistically sound manner and then covered by a frame. The frame typically had two-by-fours attached to a facing strips that held the plates together, and pieces of plywood that connected the two-by-fours. A more detailed description of a preferred construction of the shoot house is set forth in U.S. Patent No. 5,822,936.

[0010] The risks ~~assoeiate~~ associated with loose bolts can be avoided by making sure that a substantial number of the attachment bolts hold the facing and backing strips together without passing through the two-by-four. Such a situation, however, still raises the concern that the two-by-fours must be milled or otherwise handled so that the holes for the bolts can be drilled therein. This usually results in the wood being shipped to the job site from the same location as the metal plates, facing strip, etc. If drilling holes in the wood can be avoided, the wood can be purchased at a hardware store close to the site at which the range is being built. This can significantly decrease costs depending on the location of the shoot house.

[0045] During use, bullets will pass through the plywood 196 and will typically impact the plates 182. Frequently, however, a bullet will impact the two-by-four 194, thereby fragmenting portions of the two-by-four. When this happens around the bolt 190, or the nut 192, the bolt no longer securely clamps the facing strip 186 and the backing strip 188 toward each other. Furthermore, such a configuration exposes the ends of the bolts to damage by bullets. Once the facing strip and backing strip 186 and 188 no longer securely clamp against the plates, the joint

tends to open under the weight of the plates and the risk that a bullet fragment may pass between the plates increases significantly. Some shoot houses constructed in accordance with the prior art have been seen which have a half-inch or more gap between the facing strip and the plates.

[0061] Facing strip 420 and 422 are formed with an L-shaped cross-section so as to enable plate 404 to be held at a 90 degree angle from plates 408 and 412, respectively. Facing strip 424 is generally flat to connect the plates 408 and 412 together. The facing strips 420, 422, 424 are drawn toward the backing strips opposite the plates. Thus, for example, tightening the nuts 426 on bolts 428 ~~drawings~~ drawing the facing strip 424 towards its backing strips (facing strips 420 and 422) ~~Which~~ which also draws one of the backing strips (facing strip 424) toward each of the facing strips 420 and 422. Tightening the other nut 426a and bolt 428a likewise ~~drawings~~ draws the facing strips 420 and 422 toward their respective backing strips (facing strips 422 and 420, respectively).

[0070] Bolts 516 and nuts 518 are used to attach the facing strips 512 so that they clamp against the plates 502, 504, 506 and 508 and form a bullet resistant joint. A bullet containment frame, generally indicated at 530, is formed by boards 534, typically plywood, which are attached to support posts, two-by-fours 536 and two-by-twos 538, by fasteners 540, such as screws, nails, staples, etc. The support posts are, in turn, attached by fasteners 554 to mounting brackets 550 which are attached to the facing strips 512 by the bolts 516 and nuts 518.

[0071] While the facing strips and mounting brackets described herein form extremely effective bullet resistance joints, they can also be used to build ~~additionally~~ additional structures ancillary to construction of the shoot house. FIG. 8D shows the end of a wall as it might be configured for mounting a door. The structure includes a metal plate 600 having a facing strip 604 and a backing strip 608 attached thereto by a bolt 612 and nut 614. The tightening ~~the~~ nut 614 holds a mounting bracket 620 to the facing strip 604 so that a bullet containment frame, generally indicated at 624 can be attached thereto. As with previous embodiments, the bullet containment frame includes a post 628 attached to the mounting bracket 620, and boards 632 attached to the post.

[0072] Also shown in FIG. 8D is a fascia structure, generally indicated at 640. The fascia structure includes a pair of boards 644. One board is attached to the board 632 of the bullet containment frame 624 by a fastener, such as a screw 644. The other board 644a is attached by a fastener 648 to a support post 650, which is attached to a mounting bracket 654, which is bolted to the backing strip 608. The two boards 644 and 644a are also attached together by a fastener. In such a manner, a fascia can be created, such as is used to mount a door, etc., without the need for any milled lumber. (As used herein milled lumber is lumber which has had holes formed therethrough for mounting to the facing strip, etc., whereas as used herein unmilled means that the lumber lacks attachment holes extending therethrough.) In fact, all of the lumber used as shown herein can be purchased from local hardware stores, thereby saving transportation costs. Furthermore, the method of attaching the lumber to the steel plates provides for a safer shoot house, etc., as even repeated shots into the support posts will not loosen the joints.